

Amendment of the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 7, amend the last paragraph, lines 15 – 23 as set forth below;

While the invention has thus far been described in connection with embodiments in which the board 12, sled rails 30, foot plate 26, wheel assemblies 29 or track assemblies 50 and support plate 32 comprise a single assembly, in many cases it may be desirable to utilize conventional transport boards by converting them to a patient transport board in accordance with the invention. Referring to FIG. 12 ~~[[T]]~~ this is accomplished by providing a frame member, shown generally as ~~[[50]]~~ 100 that comprises a pair of spaced apart longitudinal members ~~[[52]]~~ 110 and , an upper transverse member ~~[[54]]~~ 112 and a lower transverse member ~~[[56]]~~ 114 that cooperate with the longitudinal members to form the frame member. The spacing between the longitudinal members ~~[[52]]~~ 110 is substantially the width of a conventional transport board.

Page 8, amend lines 1-18 as follows;

In the embodiment shown, the lower transverse member ~~[[56]]~~ 114 is pivotally mounted on the longitudinal members ~~[[52]]~~ 110 for movement between a folded position and an extended position (as illustrated) and thus serves as the foot support described above in connection with the embodiments of the invention illustrated and described in connection with FIG. 1. Likewise, the upper transverse member ~~[[54]]~~ 112 is pivotally mounted for movement between a folded position (as shown) and an extended position to serve as the rail support plate, the function of which is described above. Sled rails ~~[[30]]~~ 116 are pivotally mounted on the longitudinal members ~~[[52]]~~ 110 and function as described above in connection with the embodiments of the invention illustrated in FIGS. 1 – FIG. 10. Straps ~~[[24]]~~ 118 are affixed around the longitudinal

members ~~[[52]]~~ 110. A conventional transport board ~~[[58]]~~ 120 ~~can be~~ is positioned between the longitudinal members ~~[[52]]~~ 110 and is supported at its upper and lower ends by the upper transverse member ~~[[54]]~~ 112 and the lower transverse member ~~[[56]]~~ 114 respectively. Optionally wheel assemblies ~~[[29]]~~ 122 or the track assemblies 50 of FIG. 11 are journeled at the lower ends of the sled rails ~~[[30]]~~ 116 and are foldable with the sled rails or removable for positioning on a gurney or for storage.

Operation of the ~~assembly 50~~ frame member 100 and transport board 120 combination is the same as the operation of the patient transport board illustrated and described above in connection with in FIGS. 1-10.